



UTM prepares for annual Relay for Life event

**Pg. 6**



Frozen becomes top-selling DVD in days after release

**Pg. 8**



Agriculture: part of everyday life for every person

**Pg. 14**



Butler, Newsome, White end historic careers

**Pg. 16**

# the pacer

UTM's award-winning college newspaper



March 26, 2014

Independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

Volume 86, Issue 14

## SGA elections approaching quickly

### The Real Deal Party platform

**Malorie Paine**

Managing Editor, Print

The Real Deal Party's platform will address five issues: financial policy, student service, academic issues, community engagement and market UTM's success.

Real Deal's financial plan is to "continue to safeguard against unnecessary fees by working closely with the Board of Trustees to prevent unnecessary fee increases; work to assure the next General Assembly stays under budget as years past; seek out any unnecessary fees that students are still being charged and either get rid of them or better allocate them to help the students."

The party also plans to fight for additional student services including free prints or lowered printing costs and improvements of campus buildings and grounds through renovations and restoration efforts.

The party says they will fight for free prints, but "at the very

See **Real Deal**, Page 4



John Domanski



Elizabeth Sanders



Christy Chicas



Bryan Swayze



Sean O'Brien



Elizabeth Packard

### YOUiversity Party platform

**Malorie Paine**

Managing Editor, Print

The YOUiversity Party will be running on six key issues including a financial policy, student services, academics, student organizations, market successes of UTM and transparency.

The YOUiversity Party aims to safeguard against student fees and provide financial transparency. They hope to "work closely with the UT Board of Trustees to prevent unnecessary fee increases, work to lower or change the Student Publication Fee into something beneficial to all students as most publications are electronically produced and revisit the Student Teaching Fee that the 61<sup>st</sup> General Assembly tried to defund."

The YOUiversity Party will also "work to assure the next assembly continue to stay under budget as all recently past assemblies have done."

The YOUiversity Party plans to work with Dining Services by

See **YOUiversity**, Page 4

### Inside

Viewpoints.....Pgs 2,3  
News.....Pgs 4-7  
Arts & Entertainment....Pgs 8-10

Features.....Pgs 11-14  
Sports.....Pgs 15-16

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# Viewpoints

EDITORIAL

## Pacer addresses YOUNiversity issues

The Pacer editorial board had originally intended to not endorse a party this year for the Student Government Association elections.

However, after much discussion, debate and differing opinions, a majority of the board members have decided to give our full support to The Real Deal Party.

Both The Real Deal and YOUNiversity parties include a number of qualified candidates running for senator positions in the five colleges. After watching a replay of the recent debate, we discovered that both parties also have some candidates who are seriously misinformed.

Also, after studying the party platforms, we believe that the Executive Council candidates from Real Deal will best represent the entire student body. They already represent a more diverse cross-section of students than has been seen in candidates in the past several years.

In the interest of full disclosure, one of our biggest problems with the YOUNiversity Party is its plan to "work to lower or change the Student Publications Fee into something beneficial to all students as most publications are electronically produced," according to their official party platform.

Currently, the Student Publications fee is \$7 per student per semester, a fund that covers three publications at UTM: *The Pacer* student newspaper, *The Spirit* magazine and *BeanSwitch*, the literary and visual arts magazine. Contrary to the inaccurate information that we believe has been deliberately fed to many students, we have not had a yearbook fee in several years and we do not print yearbooks — we print magazines, including the freshman magazine and the graduation magazine.

We've already made two voluntary cuts in our funding. First, we asked for our fee to be cut from \$8.50 to \$7 several years

ago, about the same time that we switched from yearbooks to magazines. This year, we graciously gave up \$100,000 of the money we had saved for other purposes to help provide much-needed new equipment for the Student Recreation Center. Members of the YOUNiversity Party have called this money a "surplus;" this is simply not true.

The YOUNiversity Party says that "most publications are electronically produced;" however, they fail to realize that commercial newspapers like *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA TODAY* and *The Wall Street Journal*, all of whom have great online editions, still produce daily print issues. These are the types of publications that our staff members look to as role models for our future careers.

Student Publications is our learning lab, but, more importantly, we are the primary source for breaking news at UTM. We work to provide you, the students, with

the latest details on what happens on this campus and beyond. We use social media efficiently to let students know what's happening, so we also wonder why a YOUNiversity candidate contradicted the party's platform on using social media to connect SGA with students. Those who write news must learn to get it right; those who run for office should fully understand the issues and their platforms.

Another issue we have with the YOUNiversity Party's platform is that they say they plan to "safeguard against student fees," yet they plan to support all programs done by RAs for residents. They say they are working for the benefit of all students, but not all students live on campus.

The YOUNiversity Party also says they plan to "work with the Department of Athletics to increase team performance." We're fairly certain that no member of the YOUNiversity Party has been hired by the Department of Athletics to

coach any of the sports at UTM. And while we believe that athletics is an important part of student life, way too much discussion at the debate centered on this issue and not on other issues that we think are more important.

Also, each member of the Executive Council receives a full-ride scholarship. The president receives several additional benefits such as a meal plan, a staff parking sticker and more. How many students on this campus are receiving those benefits? We would venture to say not many, if any, and certainly none of us in Student Publications.

So we'll end this year's endorsement with a challenge and a promise. We ask all students to read our stories on the two parties and vote next week so that whoever wins will have a clear message about what's important to the student body. Meanwhile, regardless of who wins, we will continue to be the watchdogs we are supposed to be.

### 2013 semester tuition breakdown by the dollar



Pacer Graphic/Mary Jean Hall

## the pacer

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# Viewpoints

## COLUMN

### Fred Phelps: A legacy of hatred more dangerous than the man

**Eric Brand**

*Viewpoints Editor*

After quite a long life, poor Fred Phelps is no longer with us.

Immediately you may be wondering why I would even have the nerve to describe Fred Phelps, the most notorious hater in the U.S., in vaguely sympathetic terms. Please allow me to explain.

The moment you celebrate the death of a villain is the moment you replace him. Think about this for a second: Phelps' life was one of hate and intolerance. That does not justify reacting with more hate and intolerance. Phelps would have wanted that after all. Why? Because the game can go on, that's why.

Remember that Phelps would always simplify his enemies into subhuman sin machines. So if we don't keep in mind that even Phelps himself had fears, goals, hobbies and a family, then we are employing the same dangerous, apathetic mindset that made his hate messages so easy to spew.

No matter which side of the religious spectrum you're on, you're probably at least a little relieved that he's gone. That's natural, but

don't allow yourself to be happy.

If you consider yourself religious, the death of Phelps should sadden you. Not because you agreed with his message, but because his time on earth was wasted. He never in his 84 years repented for his radical behavior to live a life of love and peace.

If you're not religious, you still shouldn't allow yourself to be happy. Do you feel oppressed by religion? Do you think that the quality of mankind's life is greatly affected by zealotry like Phelps? Then let his primitive method of dealing with opposition die with him. When you mirror his actions, you allow his game of hate and prejudice to live on.

Death is a very convenient way of dealing with enemies, isn't it? It's the reason war is glorified in American media and the reason some people support the death penalty. As difficult as it is to end the life of your enemy, it's even harder to forgive your enemy. Nonetheless, forgiveness is the only real way to move on.

Are you mad at Phelps? You're not alone; both the religious and irreligious alike were furious with him. However, for the religious,

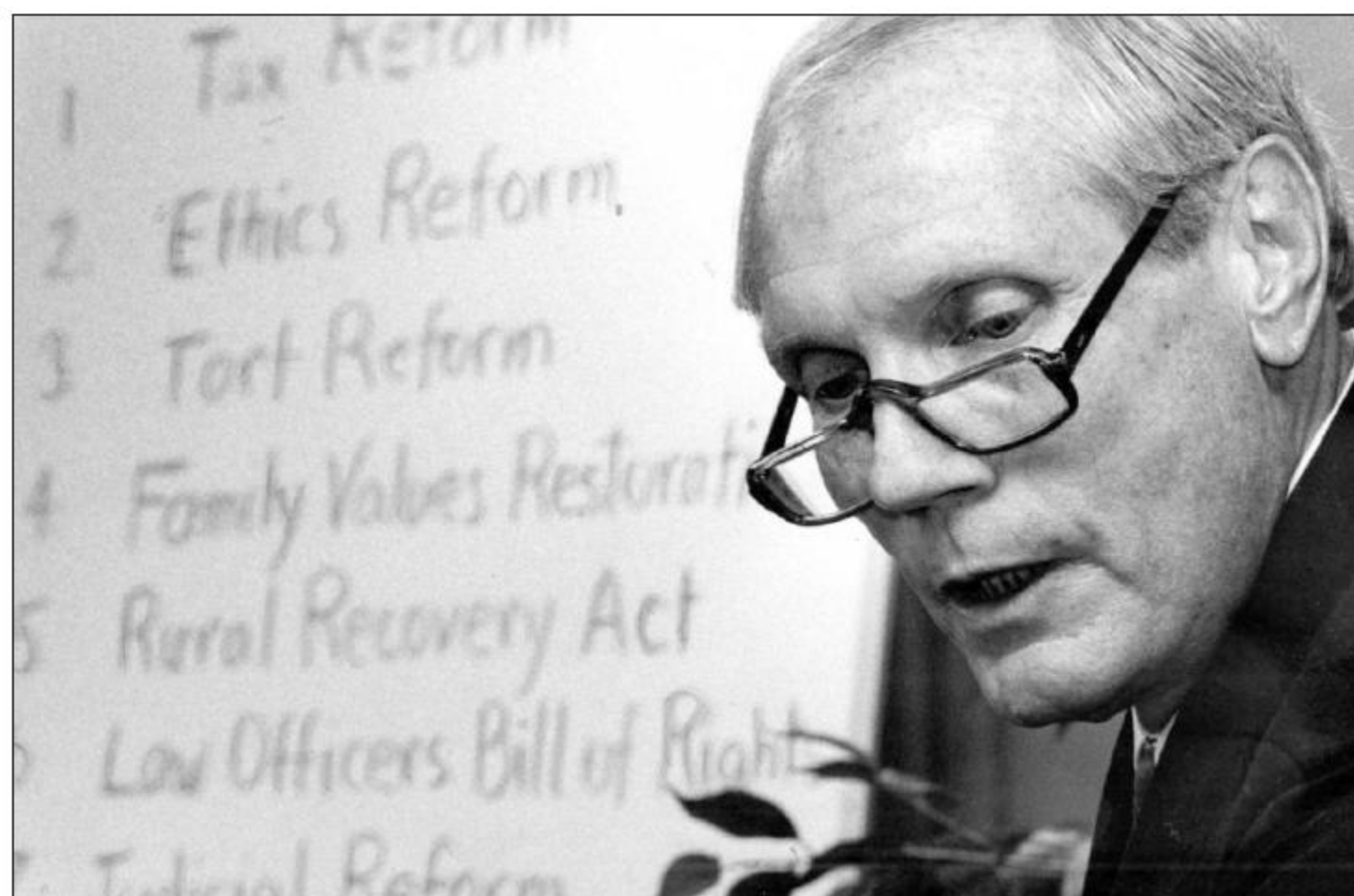


Photo Credit/The Toronto Star

it is necessary to forgive. For the irreligious, it is necessary to prevent another Phelps from ever being born by ridding this world of intolerance.

Whether you think Phelps is

writhing in Hell for his efforts or just rotting quietly in a ditch, the only thing he can do to the human race now is stink. If that's all you want him to do, then I strongly advise you to let it go.

The death of Phelps can be the death of a pawn or the death of a king; it's up to us to determine his value. Now he is only as strong as the legacy he has left behind, a fate of which we are all at mercy.

## COLUMN

### Homosexuals should have the right to marry in the U.S.

**John Herron**

*Guest Writer*

Until I reached my late teens, the issue of gay rights had always seemed trivial to me.

I wondered, why expend so much political capital on paltry recognitions like the right to a civil union or marriage when doing so could compromise the fight for the environment, economic justice and a host of other issues by empowering the "Christian right" and enabling them to wage their perpetual war on America's most vulnerable citizens?

The concept of politics as coalition building and division of

labor never entered my head. It did not occur to me that, if neither side became too dogmatic, that more conservative advocates for the poor could support the gay rights movement at certain junctures and that gay rights campaigners would also succor the former in their endeavors to protect the working class and the Earth.

Upon further reflection, I realized that the right to marry, with its host of tax benefits and other economic rights, did not constitute a nice privilege, but a fundamental recognition of equality. I came to see that I had been using the same rationale white moderates had utilized to avoid standing with the black

freedom movement in the 20th century: it doesn't really matter what part of the bus they have to sit in. It's a small insult, really, in the grand scheme of things.

Of course, people need those basic recognitions of their humanity most of all, and to have that recognition denied poisons a person's soul.

Make no mistake, violence every bit as disgusting as that perpetrated by the white supremacist movement upon the marchers in Selma and Birmingham is being visited upon gays the world over. In Russia, Putin has rammed through his "gay propaganda" legislation. Homophobic militias there have taken to deceiving gay Russians

into meeting with them in real life via the Internet, and then beating them mercilessly when they take the bait.

In Uganda, thugs and psychotic seminarians, supported by fundamentalist radicals from the U.S., are perpetrating an anti-gay pogrom. In the U.S., James Dobson and other clerical hatemongers of the church's far-right wing still propagate the notion of the Judeo-Christian God as a cosmic prison warden, holding gays, Democrats and non-Christians in eternal detention.

And then of course there is the psychological torture that homophobia inflicts on gay men and women every day. Gay kids

and teens wake up in certain "Christian" households every day, and flagellate themselves for what they have been told are "unnatural" feelings. Sometimes, they cannot take the strain and spiral into major depression, sometimes ending with the quick, final clap of a self-inflicted gunshot.

It is time for Americans to remember our basic values. There is an Islamic proverb that says, "Beware the cries of the oppressed, for there is no screen between them and God." Americans must remember this injunction if we are to purge our national soul of the blot of hatred.



# News

## SGA Elections

### Real Deal from Cover

least lower the cost of student printing through a package based system that is modeled after the University of Memphis."

The party seeks to address academic issues by "removing the S's on midterm grades in order to better help students judge their performance in their classes." They also hope to improve academic advising by coordinating with the Faculty Senate and continuing pursuing ways to protect students' academic rights.

Real Deal seeks to increase community engagement by supporting "tailgating at UTM sporting events", increasing "attendance and Skyhawk pride at athletic events by incorporating the organizations on our campus," continuing "to maintain open communication with satellite campuses" and pursuing "recruitment for open SGA positions throughout the entire student body."

The final issue The Real Deal Party hopes to address is the marketing of UTM's success. The party plans to do this through supporting "campus conservation programs and support policies that improve efficiency and ultimately save University resources." The also plan to "lobby support from the Legislature for Higher Education" through "connections in the Tennessee State Legislature in order to promote and protect higher education at UTM" and by showcasing "undergraduate research through public medians in West Tennessee."

The Real Deal executive council candidates are John Domanski for president, Elizabeth Sanders for vice president and Christy Chicas for secretary general.

### Student Defender

Hunter Lindberg



### Attorney General

Cole Gray



### Associate Justices



Mary Clayton



Marabeth Kennedy



Wendy Nguyen



Luke Robinson



Jordynne Walker

### YOUiversity from Cover

continuing "to work closely with Sodexo and dining services to provide better quality and a more enjoyable dining experience on campus for students." They will work for campus beautification by continuing "to uphold the precedent set by past assemblies of supporting forms of renovation to campus aesthetics and to push for the UTM themed flower bed to be planted in front of the Dunagen Alumni Center that was passed in legislation by the 62<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly."

The YOUiversity Party also hopes to work with athletics by working to "continue the Athletic Liaison position within SGA, improve the relationship between the Department of Athletics and SGA by coordinating events together, such as UTM Appreciation Day and whiteout games and work with the Department of Athletics to increase team performance and student participation in Athletic events and games."

The YOUiversity Party plans to "support all programs done by RAs for residents, along with services such as Residence Hall Tutoring on campus and work to increase participation in these

events and programs hosted by the Department of Housing."

The YOUiversity Party also plans to focus on academics with a look at registration, advising, grade appeal and academic quality. The party plans to "support earned hours based on registration and encourage professors to solve individual registration issues and research the benefits and downfalls of priority registration for those students requiring it." The party says it will "work with the Faculty Senate to improve the quality of advising in an effort to increase the UTM retention rate for students."

They also plan to "establish a grade appeal process for students who believe their final grade has been recorded incorrectly to be approved by the University Council, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and pursue ways to improve students' academic rights."

The party also hopes to improve academic quality by working "to increase the campus overall GPA through implementing and supporting pre-existing programs, such as the Student

Success Center" and by hosting and sponsoring "a convention for student research presentations."

The YOUiversity Party also says they plan to increase student engagement in organizations by encouraging "student organizations to continue their successes, but to also extend their events to the weekends in an effort to have more events for students who do not travel home and support of President's Roundtable, Diversity Week, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and international student exchange and student organizations to participate and involvement in Athletic games and events."

The party also plans to focus on market successes through supporting "campus conservation and policies that improve efficiency and ultimately save university resources in order to put more resources towards programs that improve overall campus success, showcase undergraduate research by hosting and sponsoring an undergraduate research presentation conference" and by working "with our state government to promote support

for higher education throughout the state, but especially at UTM."

Finally, the YOUiversity Party plans to increase transparency at all levels. At the Legislative Branch, they plan to "hold all members accountable through the Judicial Branch, work to make senators more personable and visual on campus by hosting more SGA sponsored events" and make contacting senators "easier through social media."

At the Executive Branch, the party hopes to "hold all member accountable by the Judicial Branch and the student body and post videos periodically updating the student body on the State of the Campus and SGA business." At the Judicial Branch, the party says it will "hold all member accountable through Executive and Legislative Branches and work to maintain that the Student Court remains unbiased in all circumstances."

The executive council for the YOUiversity party includes Bryan Swayze for president, Sean O'Brien for vice president and Elizabeth Packard for secretary general.



# News

## SGA Elections

### The Real Deal Party

The College of  
Agriculture and  
Applied Sciences



Laney Hixson



Tanna Norman



Stephen McBride

The College of  
Business and  
Global Affairs



Quiosha Daniel  
Johnson



Kyle Jones



Dustin Lutz

The College of Education,  
Health, and Behavioral Sciences



Elizabeth  
Belvin



Katie  
Drummond



Laurel  
Elzey



Major  
Freeman



Chuck  
Hammer



Meg  
Lawrence



Ryan  
Leatherbarrow



Kim  
Meacham



Joe  
Nelson

The College of  
Engineering and  
Natural Sciences



Erin  
Gallagher



Yvannah  
Garcia



Darian  
Matheny



Matt  
McBride

The College of  
Humanities and  
Fine Arts



Charity  
Curry



Morgan  
Fitzgerald



Kayla  
Fuller



Leia  
Mitchell

### YOUNiversity Party



Crystal Climer



Elaina Henson



Brant Luker



Rachel Wolters



Jaclyn  
Heckle



Logan Hunt



JD Leavell



Hallie Belle  
Smith



Jana Vestal



Chelsey  
Box



Abby  
Frantom



Mary K.  
Gaters



Elyse  
Geels



Kelly  
James



Nikki  
Kroll



Kate  
Kucherenko



Jake  
Melaro



Megan  
Morris



John  
Sellers



Hailey  
Smith



Hunter  
Taylor



Lynsi  
Boehms



Josh Diltz



Priya Patel



Gabriel  
Arroyo



Chantia  
Brown



Georgia  
Brown



Della  
Coleman



Jonathan  
Fisher



Cathy  
Young



# News

## Student Relay for Life set for Friday, March 28

### University Relations

The UTM Relay for Life student organization is hosting a Relay for Life Event from 6 p.m. to midnight, Friday, March 28, in the Elam Center.

"The event is open to all faculty, staff, students and the community, and I would like to ask everyone to come and support our students and their efforts to reach their goal of \$40,000 for the American Cancer Society," said Dr. Desiree McCullough, faculty advisor for the student Relay for Life and a seven-year breast cancer survivor.

This past year, the UTM students raised more than \$25,000 and achieved the distinction of being the top Collegiate Relay for Life event in West Tennessee.

The event is free, and all money raised will be added to other Weakley County events for 2014. The county was recognized as sixth in the nation per capita in 2013.

"You can help in a number of ways," McCullough said. "Students

are asking members of the UT Martin community who are cancer survivors to attend so they can be recognized during the survivors' walk." Survivors are encouraged to sign up before the event at the link below or they may register at the event.

"Anyone can make a donation for the American Cancer Society to benefit this event," McCullough said. "Your donation can go to the entire event, a team, or to an individual person. No donation is too small."

You can honor a survivor or someone who has lost the battle by purchasing luminaries for \$5 each.

"Students are set up in the Boling University Center daily if you would like to donate or purchase a luminary," McCullough said.

"If you would rather have someone come to you then please just contact me either by phone or email (731-881-7014 or dmccull1@utm.edu)."

To register, donate, or join a team go to <http://ow.ly/uVkwB>.



## 'Pike Fights' prepare for 25th anniversary

### Mark Maloney

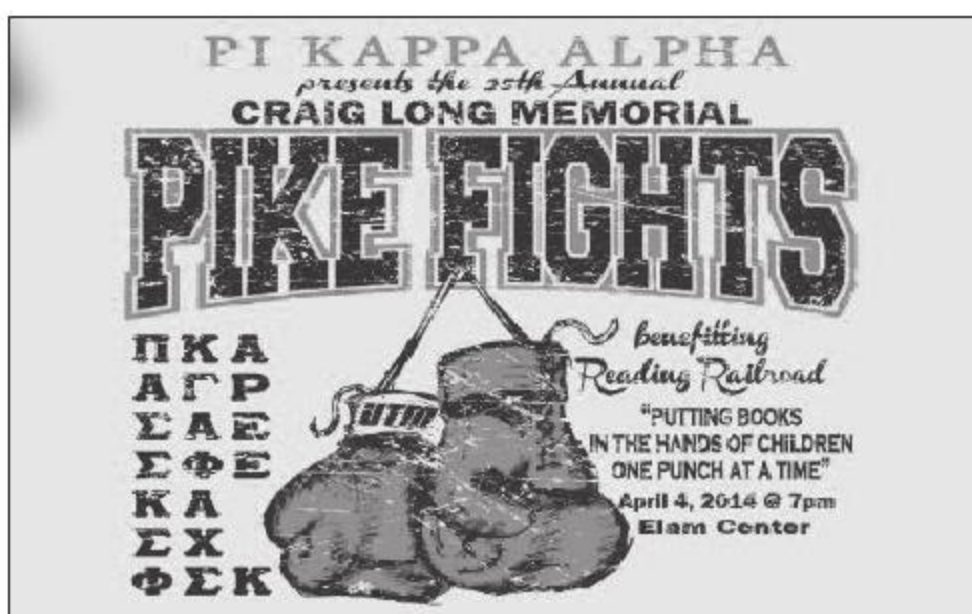
Guest Writer

Much like any other year at this time, the brothers of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at UTM have begun preparations for their annual Pike's Peak Week, their designated week of philanthropic events.

As one can imagine, the amount of work required to plan these events for a typical year is great, but this year is far from typical as the Pikes plan for the 25th anniversary of their highest grossing event, the Craig Long Memorial Pike Fights.

"We take a lot of pride in this event. We know that it is a mainstay in both the campus and Martin communities," said this year's coordinator Blake Parham, a UTM sophomore.

"Planning this out has been really a great learning experience for me. Knowing the caliber of event we always put out is a lot of pressure, but it drives me to wanting to see



this 25th anniversary be the best yet."

The fights are an annual boxing exhibition comprised of matches pitting men from the seven member fraternities of the UTM Interfraternity Council against one another. The matches consist of three one-minute rounds of boxing that are decided by a panel of judges based on number of connecting

blows or (perhaps more excitingly) via knockout.

While the excitement and intensity of the matches are certainly some of their most fun and drawing qualities, the benefactor of their profits, the Weakley County Reading Railroad, is what continues to make them a highly-respected part of Martin social life.

"It means a lot for our organization

to be tied so closely to the Weakley County Reading Railroad program," said President Jacob Harris of Pike.

"To date we have raised over \$100,000, averaging around \$5,000 per year, but this year being our 25th anniversary, we've raised our goal to \$10,000. We want to see the Reading Railroad succeed because it serves a great role in our community and has really helped the children of Weakley County. The importance of our work is shown by the prominent figures of Weakley County who attend the event each year."

In addition to all the philanthropic benefits of the event, it also promotes a healthy sense of fraternal unity among chapters on campus, uniting them toward a common goal in helping their local community on a truly important matter.

"Most of our charity efforts actually involve an organization located in Dyersburg because we have historic ties to it," said President Jacob Sells of Sigma Phi

Epsilon, winning chapter of last year's Pike Fights. "The chance to come together to mutually align ourselves for a local cause such as this is something that I think means a lot to all of the chapters here at UTM to have the chance to be a part of."

The Weakley County Reading Railroad is a nonprofit organization that serves in partnership to both the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and the Governor's Books from Birth program.

Currently there are 1,217 children enrolled in the program that is supported strictly through the generosity of individuals, businesses and civic groups such as the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha who prove their willingness to fight for its success every year.

The 25th annual Craig Long Memorial Pike Fights will take place in the Tom and Kathleen Elam Center on Friday, April 4 with the first bout beginning at 7 p.m.



# News

## Sigma Alpha Epsilon hosts annual A Walk in Her Shoes

**Chase Cartmell**

*Guest Writer*

The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon wore high heels proudly, at least for a day.

SAE hosted the event, A Walk in Her Shoes, Thursday, March 20. The event was to raise awareness for women's rights and funds for the UTM Women's Center. The event gave men an opportunity to walk an obstacle course in women's high heel shoes. Members from several organizations attended the event to show their support of the event. SAE raised a total of \$300 for the UTM Women's Center.

This main purpose of the event was to give men an opportunity to see what it is like to take a walk in girl shoes. This obstacle course was a simple way to represent the differences between what is expected of women and what is expected of men. Walking this obstacle course in women's high heels allowed the men to see what it is like to take a walk in these types of shoes. Several members of SAE who walked

in the event said that it was not as easy as it seemed, and they learned a lot from it.

"We had really good participation, and personally from doing it, I had a whole lot of fun. Running that obstacle course in those heels really made me respect women's ability to make it look so easy to walk in heels. We are looking forward to continuing this event in years to come and making it bigger and better," said Ivo Worth, president of SAE.

The obstacle course began in front of the Holt Humanities Building and went through the center of the quad. The participants were required to perform tasks such as hula hoop, zig-zag through cones, spin around in circles with their forehead on a bat and limbo. There were 16 participants that competed in four different heats and a championship run. The winner was Cody Neely, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

This was the first time that SAE has hosted this event, and they are hoping to make it an annual event.



The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon hosted A Walk in Her Shoes. This is an event to raise awareness for women's rights and funds for the UTM Women's Center. The brothers hope to make this an annual event. | **Photo Credit/Chase Cartmell**

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# Arts & Entertainment



Photo Credit/hiscre.files.wordpress.com

## Frozen to become best-selling Disney movie of all time

**Becca Partridge**

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Disney's *Frozen* was released to DVD and Blu-ray on Tuesday, March 18. In the first day alone, it sold 3.2 million copies, according to Disney.

In fact, before the release date, it had broken records on Amazon in preorders to become the bestselling kids movie of all time on DVD, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

This comes as no surprise to the millions of fans who have been eagerly waiting for the DVD release.

The general consensus among fans is that this movie far surpasses previous Disney movies because it is not based on a princess finding her one true love. Instead, the true love

that becomes the saving power is the love of two sisters.

*Frozen* is a movie that viewers of any age can enjoy. Collegiate women appreciate the change in pace from the usual Disney movie, because this movie expresses that the bond of sisters is forever and that a woman doesn't need a man to be her hero. Princess Anna has the determination to succeed in anything she sets her mind to, and her love for her sister gives her the strength to overcome the seemingly impossible.

"I love the fact that this movie is a story about endless love between two sisters. To me, it's good that it's not centered around a love relationship, but instead it puts a lot of emphasis on another relationship that can mean just as much, such

as the sisterly bond. It has a lot to teach our generation and generations after," said Heather Vacovsky, a junior Chemistry major.

Parents love the movie because of the lessons it teaches young girls about taking care of themselves and being in charge of their own happiness. Unlike usual Disney movies, *Frozen* teaches young children to be independent and confident. Most of all, *Frozen* teaches that family, above all else, is the most important thing.

"My child is in love with it and the soundtrack. We liked that it's not your typical 'damsel in distress' Disney movie, and that true love was between sisters and not a prince. I think it's great to help show our girls that a prince doesn't

solve everything, and they don't need a man to save them and be happily ever after," said Whitney Simpson, a 2011 UTM graduate who majored in Secondary Education and is currently in the online UTM counseling graduate program.

*Frozen* is not just for females. It reaches even collegiate men with its unique ending.

"Most Disney movies are about true love – a prince and a princess. What about the people who never find true love? This movie shows the true love of a family bond," said Jacob Maness, a junior Integrated Studies: K-6 major.

Even though *Frozen* is similar to many other Disney movies with the music and basic plot, it keeps first-time viewers on their toes with the plot twists.

"It was a typical Disney movie, but not so typical. The ending was a twist. It had me hooked," said Tavarious Cleaves, a freshman Food and Nutrition major.

Disney's *Brave* took the first step when Princess Merida chose to be independent rather than choosing a prince, but *Frozen* took it even further by proving that the love between sisters is one of the deepest bonds, and that it is possible to choose your sister over your prince when it comes down to life and death.

*Frozen* became an instant classic as soon as it hit theaters and has only gained popularity since then. It will forever be a milestone in the history of Disney and fans don't plan to 'Let It Go' any time soon.



# Arts & Entertainment



Photo Credit/blast.com

## Bates Motel launches thrilling second season

**Rachael Vacek**

Guest Writer

A&E has come up with a new popular hit television show for the year, *Bates Motel*.

*Bates Motel* is on its second season on the network, and this season has a lot of anticipation behind it. The characters are more intense, and the storyline is both scary and exciting at the same time.

The idea for the show came from Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* (1960), which tells the story of a woman who visits a run-down motel, the Bates Motel, and finds a strange owner named Norman Bates, who ends up murdering her. It is later discovered by the police that he keeps his dead mother in the cellar of the hotel.

The *Bates Motel* series is a prelude to that movie, showing

Norman Bates as a teenager living in Bates Motel with his mother, Norma Bates. Although the viewer sees that Norman is a strange kid from the beginning, it is slowly revealed throughout the series just how twisted his mind is and how he becomes a very destructive person who cannot remember what he has done.

Norma Bates is not just trying to save her motel and keep it running, but she is also trying to keep Norman out of trouble, which seems get harder to do as the series goes on.

The first season of the series outlined what the show is about, but in the second season, the characters personalities are starting to show through more and who knows what will happen next?

Norman's teacher mysteriously winds up getting murdered

after a visit from Norman, and Norman's closest friends are shown more in this season with their own stories and troubles that are still unexplained.

Norman has also started the strange hobby of taxonomy and seems to be obsessed with morbidity, which makes his mom begin to worry.

Are they ever going to figure out who killed Norman's teacher? Is Norman going to become more twisted in the head? Is Norma going to be able to keep her motel?

So many questions need to be answered, and who knows if they will ever be.

The second season just began, and there is plenty of time to catch up on this interesting series. Tune in to A&E on Mondays at 8 p.m. to watch what will happen next at Bates Motel.

## Review: 300: Rise of an Empire maintains gory tale

**Chase Cartmell**

Guest Writer

It has been a long wait for the sequel to the testosterone-infused blood-bath that was the movie 300. After the original movie was so successful at the box office, it was thought that a sequel would be made quickly, but sadly that was not the case. There is no need to fret anymore, because the bloody sequel that we have all been waiting for is exactly what 300: Rise of an Empire delivers on screen.

This movie takes place at the same time that Gerald Butler and his 299 Spartans partook in the Battle of Thermopylae and achieved "a beautiful victory" leaving Spartan Queen Gorgo, returning star Lena Heady, as leader of the Spartans. While this is all occurring off-screen, the movie follows the other Greeks as they attempt to defeat the Persian navy at the aquatic battle on the Aegean Sea.

Themistokles, a Greek soldier at the time, killed King Darius of the Persians, God-King Xerxes' father, in the opening scene with a perfectly placed arrow. Years later, after Xerxes

mourns his father's death and is left to wander the desert, he comes across a cave that transforms him in to the god-king we see in the first movie. Xerxes sets his sights back on Greece and attacks with full force. This is about the extent of Xerxes' appearance in the movie, however, as he sits back and watches the battle from his golden throne.

Themistokles, who is now leader of the Greek naval fleet, is charged with leading his significantly outnumbered and undersized ships against the vast and powerful Persian navy, led by Artemisia. Artemisia, played wonderfully by Eva Green, is the character that pulls the whole movie together.

After watching the raping and killing of her family, she was made a Greek ship slave where she was brutalized for years. She was then rescued by the Persian King Darius and trained in combat, only to watch Darius fall at the hands of the Greeks. She swore vengeance on the Greeks, and she intends to keep that promise. She attempts to corrupt, seduce and murder Themistokles, and the only things sharper than her tongue are her twin blades.

## UTM opera production set for Too Many Sopranos

**University Relations**

So these four sopranos die and go to heaven ... No, this isn't the start of some bad joke. It is the plot of the 2014 UTM Lyric Opera Theatre production *Too Many Sopranos*.

This is the opera that pokes fun at opera and many of its stereotypes. When these four sopranos get to heaven, Saint Peter tells them that there is only room for one of them in the heavenly choir. This means that they must audition.

The only other option is to travel "down below" and retrieve some male singers who didn't quite make it to heaven. If the women perform a selfless act, the men will be allowed into heaven and everyone will be allowed to sing in the choir.

Will the ladies do it? Will the men be allowed into heaven? Will Saint Peter go crazy dealing with these four divas? For these answers and more, you must come and find out. Sung in English, this hilarious opera promises to be a fun production.

This one-of-a-kind opera is presented at 7:30 p.m. both nights, Friday and Saturday, March 28 and 29, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

Admission is \$5 for adults and children under 12 are admitted free. Tickets are sold at the door only; the ticket booth opens one hour before each performance.

For more information, please contact the UTM Department of Music at (731) 881-7402.



# Arts & Entertainment

## Creative coolers crash parties everywhere

**Malorie Paine**

Managing Editor, Print

Anyone who has been to the beach or a party lately has probably seen the latest craze: painted coolers.

Making painted coolers is something several UTM students, like sophomore Hayley Doty, have begun doing. Doty says she started doing them at first just as a birthday present, but she enjoyed the experience so much that she decided to paint several others.

"My friends are involved in Greek life and my boyfriend is as well. So, I decided to paint a cooler for a birthday present. My friends introduced me to The Cooler Connection group on Facebook for inspiration. It was all a learning experience, but it is so much fun once you learn the process," Doty said.

In order to paint a cooler, there is a process one must go through. After purchasing the cooler, sanding is the first and most important step.

"Sanding is very important; do not just start painting. I have seen countless people have to restart a cooler because the paint began peeling off. Do not skip sanding and priming. It will save you from heartbreak," Doty said.

Because sanding an entire cooler by hand can be a lengthy

process, Doty recommends using an electric sander. Every part of the cooler that is to be painted should first be sanded.

"You should sand the lid and everything else including the bottom, if you want to paint it. It is important to sand it properly because this helps the primer stick to it easier," Doty said.

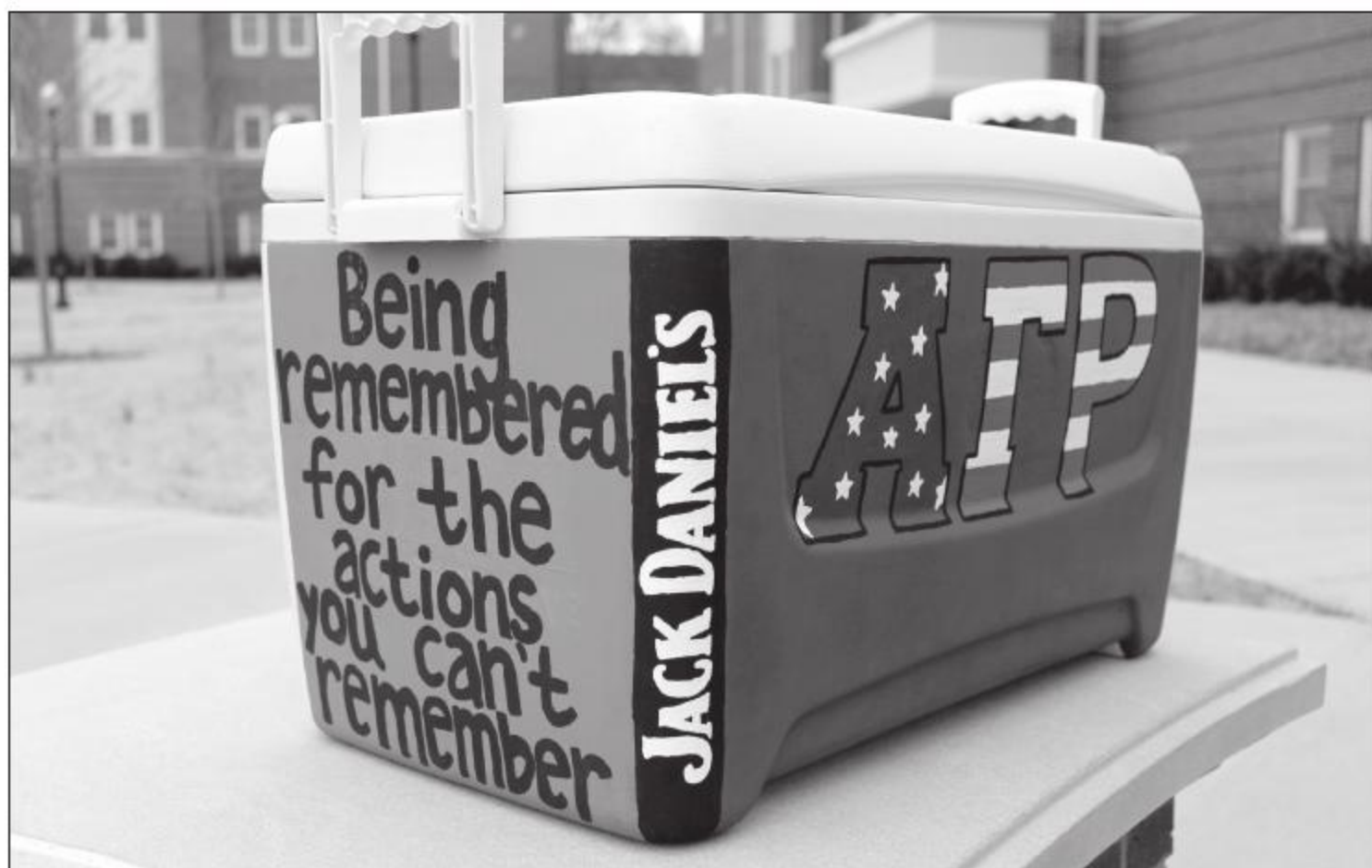
After sanding the cooler, a wet towel should be used to wipe away the debris. If a cooler with an engraved logo was used, fill in the logo with spackle.

"Spackling the logos will make painting the cooler so much easier. Otherwise, the paintbrush won't cooperate when trying to paint over them. Spackle the cooler, and let it dry overnight," Doty said.

After the spackle dries and has been sanded, the primer should be applied and allowed to dry overnight.

"I use Krylon for my primer. It has been successful for me so far, and it has not given me any problems," Doty said. "Depending on the size of the cooler, it should take one to two cans of spray paint primer."

Once the primer has set overnight, the painting process can begin. Any type of acrylic paint will work well for the project. Doty says one trick she has learned is to find an image online and trace it on tissue paper.



Above is one of Hayley Doty's current cooler projects. | **Pacer Photo/Malorie Paine**

Then, tape the tissue paper to the cooler and trace over it in permanent marker.

The [permanent marker] will bleed through enough to leave a perfect outline to paint. It works like a charm for those hard to freehand fonts and images," she said.

When the paint is completely dry, modgepodge should be applied and allowed to dry. Once the top coat is dry, the last step

can be completed. Applying a sealer will help prevent the paint from chipping.

"The Minwax sealer in a spray can has been a charm for me. The coolers I've painted have been dragged around everywhere from the beach to camping, and they have held up really well. You must absolutely do several coats of sealer," Doty said.

Painted coolers are popular

gift items and most people really enjoy getting them.

"It's a lot of work but your friend or date will really appreciate it. It's something that makes a statement about their personality. The surprise of seeing the person's face after they see it is probably my favorite," Doty said.

Inspiration for painted coolers can be found on Pinterest or on The Cooler Connection Facebook page.

## The Secret Life of Walter Mitty inspires more than mere DVD sales

**Courtney Pearson**

Staff Writer

"Inspiring," "romantic" and "life-affirming" are just a few words to describe *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*. Inspired by James Thurber's 1939 short story, this film unpacks a wallop of Hollywood big names as director Ben Stiller does his finest to bring to life Thurber's loosely-based characters.

Overall, this film focuses on

the concept of Thurber's most famous short story – to live life to its absolute fullest and under no circumstances settle for less.

Ben Stiller plays Walter Mitty, a quiet middle-aged man who slips between the cracks in his job restoring photographs for Life Magazine.

Often caught spacing out and creating new alter-egos for himself, Walter is frequently found to be a target for office jokes. After years of loyalty to

his work, a shocking string of events occur that force Walter to get out of his comfort zone and travel the world in order to save job security for the entire office.

This film is filled with awe-inspiring one-liners, talented actors, heart-lifting music and incredible scenery. Cheryl Melhoff, played by Kristen Wiig, offers an adorable sense of romance to the story, as Walter circles the globe seeing her face

appear everywhere, from cloud formations to flower sculptures.

In one scene, Melhoff is seen playing David Bowie's "Space Oddity" on guitar as Mitty spontaneously jumps into a flying helicopter.

*The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* is a must-see. It leaves you feeling like the world really is your personal playground. There are things to do, places to see, foods to try and people to meet.

Why not go and do those

things? Everyone has had a yearning to catch a departing plane to India at some point or another and through watching this film you are able to see the other side of the word yearning: living.

If anything, this film should show the viewer how beautiful life can be when you just take a chance and get a passport. *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* will be released on Blu-ray and DVD on April 15, 2014.



# Features

## UTM UNLIMITED

# Couple advances technology, travel, learning

**Lyndsay Riggs**

Staff Writer

Although Dr. Jim Clark and Anna Hackward Clark have been diligently serving UTM and the Martin community for over 30 years as both teachers and volunteers, they didn't start out here.

They both grew up in the Midwest: Anna Hackward in Missouri and Jim Clark in Indiana. Clark received his academic start at DePauw University, a liberal arts college in Greencastle, Ind. Hackward began her academic career at Moberly Junior College in Moberly, Miss. Several years later, the couple met at the University of Missouri. Clark was working on his Ph.D. in Mathematics, while Hackward was finishing her bachelor's degree and working towards her master's in English, which she completed a couple of years later in 1973.

They married later that year in 1973. Dr. Clark taught at the University of Mississippi for a few years while she did some graduate work at the university before teaching junior high school in Oxford for several years.

It wasn't until 1981 that they found themselves at UTM. By then, they had a 3-year-old daughter, Emily, and a 1-year-old son, Eric. Dr. Clark was given a full-time job in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, and Anna Clark, known as Ms. Clark to her students, received a job as an adjunct instructor in English. Both agree that UTM was a perfect fit for them and has treated them well.

The Clarks were at the forefront of pushing technology forward here at the university.

"We have seen such changes here on campus since we came, and one of the major things ... is that the technology has just blossomed," Anna Clark said.

Dr. Clark had come to UTM to teach computer science, and his expertise in the field positively affected his wife.

"Those of us in English really saw the future coming. We wanted computers in the Humanities ... 'computers for composition,'" Anna Clark said.

At that time, computers were only available to the Departments of Computer Science and

working to get more computers in the writing center.

UTM became one of the major leaders of student access to computers.

"It isn't widely known but of the state universities [in Tennessee], UTM was the first to have Internet access in the dorms, I believe," Dr. Clark said.

Besides their common interest in technology, the Clarks have

biking, hiking and traveling, specifically on international travel-study trips.

"We're never bored. Travel is a big deal for us. Jim's always supported me. I've been the leader for the international trips. But he has supported me totally by either taking care of things on the home front or by going with me and assisting in a number of different ways. For a period

Both of their children grew up here in Martin and graduated from Westview High School. Their daughter, Emily, majored in International Studies at Rhodes College in Memphis and now works in Boston for the support group, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. Their son, Eric, majored in English at UTM, where he also gained a proficiency in Japanese, and is now an educational adviser for the Board of Education in Sendai, Japan.

Dr. Clark, who taught for a total of 41 years, retired from teaching at the university in 2012. He now volunteers 2-3 days a week with AARP Tax-Aide and works out about 4-5 days a week at The Sideline gym. The year before last, he bicycled approximately 3,700 miles, averaging about ten miles per day.

Clark recently celebrated her 65th birthday and has no immediate plans to stop teaching. She earnestly expresses how fortunate she and Dr. Clark were to have been in a profession that they both loved and that has allowed them to be together.

Anna Clark shares this advice with UTM students.

"Make the most of every day. Make the most of your experience here [at UTM]. Take as much from every class that you can possibly take. Be involved. Get involved. Look at the possibilities. Open your minds for new experiences and travel. Look beyond, go to those horizons. Stay steady, do your work, attend class and take it seriously. Keep healthy and fit mentally and physically, and make the most of your time here because it goes so very quickly," Anna Clark said.

*Go to the photo gallery "Clark Family" at [www.thepacer.net](http://www.thepacer.net) to view more photos of the Clarks and their children.*



Dr. Jim Clark and Anna Clark at a scenic overlook above the Big Sur area on the Central Coast of California. | **Photo Courtesy /Anna Clark**

Engineering. However, the Clarks, among others, watched computer labs grow as they pushed for more technology at the university. Anna Clark became a full-time instructor in 1986 as well as co-coordinator of the Hortense Parrish Writing Center, both jobs she still holds today. With Dr. Clark's help, she learned how to work with the desktop publisher program that was in use at that time while also

been very involved in improving the community.

"We've both combined our interests for outreach and service. We really believe strongly in sharing and being involved," Anna Clark said.

Both are members of the Kiwanis service group. In the past, they have also both served as presidents of Phi Kappa Phi. Other hobbies include attending plays at the Vanguard Theatre,

of at least ten years, we were at the forefront of helping students travel," Anna Clark said.

Some of their most recent travel-study trips include a journey to Ireland in 2008, Scotland in 2006 and Italy and France in 2005. They have additionally made several personal trips to Germany, Japan and other countries in recent years.

Furthermore, they agreed that [Martin's] been a wonderful place to grow as a family.



# Features

UTM UNLIMITED

## Professor trains hard, lives life to fullest

**Sheila Scott**

*Features Editor*

She begins her day when many of her students are just going to bed.

Rolling out of bed at 1 a.m. to begin her typical morning routine, Trisha Capansky, assistant professor of English and Modern Foreign Languages, starts each day with a quick cup of coffee, teeth brushing and a mad dash out the door to begin a two-hour bike ride on her beloved English cycle.

"I can't imagine my life without a bike. Cycling is such a liberating experience. Moreover, you see your surroundings and nature from a different perspective when riding a bike. It's such a beautiful experience," Capansky said.

She rides 27 miles every day in all weather conditions, except when the temperature falls below 7 degrees, the roads are icy or when strong winds would prevent her finishing her ride within two hours. She continues to adhere to her regimented schedule throughout the day.

After her bike ride, she eats breakfast, takes a shower, catches up on the latest news and then heads out the door for work. She walks a mile to work most days and arrives at the office around 5:30 a.m., even though her office hours do not start until 7 a.m. She says the quiet early morning hours are best for getting lots of work done.

"I'm often ribbed about how insane my schedule is, but in my defense, I enjoy that time of day when even the birds aren't awake. Even as a kid and teenager, I woke early and went to bed early; thus, never once did my mom have to yell at me for busting my 10 p.m. curfew," Capansky said.

Because her parents divorced and her father was killed, she lived many places throughout her childhood but considers Eastern North Carolina home. She is



*Pacer Photo/Sheila Scott*

Polish, and like many Jewish children she began learning Hebrew at an early age.

Unlike English, Hebrew is written from right to left. She learned both Hebrew and the English alphabet at age 4. She can not only write Hebrew right to left, but she can also write English right to left. She says it has always been quicker for her to write right to left when taking notes, especially during college.

Although she can read English when written this way, most people would have to hold the paper in front of a mirror to be able to read it.

Like many college students, Capansky began her college career straight out of high school, but when after a semester she still didn't know what she wanted to do with her life, she quit. Deciding to take some time off to figure it out, she headed to England for six

months to work for a family business. Six months turned into 4 years.

During this time she would work for six months and then take a week off to tour Europe. This enabled her to see all of Europe on a frequent basis. Once she figured out what she wanted to do with her life, she returned to the states to put her plan in motion.

"I wanted to go into my schooling knowing exactly what I wanted to do. It's just the way I am. I'm not one to change my mind really," Capansky said.

She earned her bachelor's degree in Communications from East Carolina University in 1998. She later returned to earn a master's degree in Political Science from West Texas A&M University in 2003, a Certified Public Management certification from Texas Tech University in 2004 and her

doctorate in Technical and Professional Communication from East Carolina University in 2011.

During college Capansky lived on a really tight budget. She carried her lunch with her and walked or rode her bike whenever possible. By living on such a tight budget, she was able to afford to go to some minor league baseball games and take a few trips down the coast each year.

"Probably the best trip was what I call my theme vacation, which is when I drove from North Carolina to New England touring places related to sailing. The trip ended in Bar Harbor, Maine, but my favorite place was Newport, RI, which is a city rich in nautical and maritime history," Capansky said.

Because she grew up around water, Capansky has always had an interest in sailing. She even lived at a marina before moving to

Martin. About 7 years ago her love of sailing really became a passion. During the last 4 years on her fall and spring breaks, she worked as a crew member on a sailboat.

She refers to herself as the Gilligan of the boat. She works the sails because she is more agile and faster than the rest of the crew.

"During Spring Break I helped bring back a boat from the Bahamas," Capansky said.

Her sailing, 27-mile daily bike rides and her healthy-vegetarian lifestyle are all not only enjoyable, but essential in her training for her next big vacation. She is preparing herself to ride the entire Bordeaux Region of France. She plans to go from Winery to Winery, especially to the ones that were in existence during Thomas Jefferson's time.

See **Trains**, Page 13



# Features

## Trains

from Page 12

"That was his [Thomas Jefferson's] favorite region of France. He is my favorite president. So, I thought if I could hit that region but see it all by bicycle, then it would be not quite the equivalent of the way Jefferson saw it. But my cycle is the same as his horse and buggy. So, it will be at the same pace," Capansky said.

While at ECU, Capansky worked as a freelance reporter for area newspapers and participated in her local chapter of SPJ, the Society of Professional Journalists. She currently serves as co-adviser for UTM's local chapter of SPJ, along with fellow co-adviser Tomi McCutchen Parrish, instructor of Communications and coordinator of the UTM Office of Student Publications.

"I am thrilled that Dr. Trisha Capansky joined me as a co-adviser for SPJ, our Society of Professional Journalists student chapter," Parrish said. "Trisha brings us a wealth of experience as a business and technical writer. She believes in the fundamental values and best practices of journalism, she is a professional member of SPJ, and she has been instrumental in helping our students reinvigorate the SPJ student chapter."

"I can't thank her enough for her help and support, and our example of cross-discipline advising is, I believe, a tremendous boom for all of our students," Parrish said.

Capansky worked as a journalist for several years after graduating college, but later decided to take a job as a planner position for the City of Amarillo. While working as a planner, she earned her master's degree and CPM certification.

Although her career path no longer encompasses land-use plans, ordinances and working with developers, she continues to remain actively interested in urban planning issues and serves on the Martin Municipal-Regional Planning Commission.

Upon reaching the highest possible advancement level as a planner, she

decided to return to college to earn her doctorate degree and begin teaching. This semester marks her second year of teaching at UTM. She currently teaches Technical Communications and an English Composition class. She is passionate about her students' futures.

"I can tell when students are turning in assignments for a grade as opposed to students who are beginning to see themselves as entry-level professionals within

discussing issues that will impact their future."

Capansky is also interested in the formation of nations, not so much in wars involving territorial control, but in media's role in contributing to secession and independence. She is particularly interested in South Sudan because the South Sudanese stand to move from an oral to a digital culture in only a few years as opposed to most Western

publication. The chapter involves interviews with South Sudanese refugees who participated in a survey involving communication practices that she and a colleague put together. Additionally, she and her colleague have an article of similar scope going that is currently being peer reviewed for publication.

Interest in this subject is being widely accepted within the academic community. Last year

thoroughly enjoys learning and trying new things.

"My dream du jour is to experiment with designing and building a house in accordance to the standards and qualifications of the Small Houses Movement, meaning homes that do not exceed 500 sq. ft. In a perfect world I would like to build to criteria that meet LEED certification," Capansky said.

"I'm always interested in how little a person really requires to live comfortably. My studies involving developing countries have really made me aware of how materialistic we are as a society, and that we're not any better off for it."

Capansky offers this practical advice to all UTM students, staff and faculty.

"When you are having one of those days, where you are in the dumps for whatever reason, spend 30 minutes reading a world news report. You will then find that if you can look forward to filling your stomach at dinner that night and crawling into a bed, you are in a much better position than most of the rest of the world. You will be reminded how very lucky you are, and suddenly your issues are no longer as bad as they seemed."

Capansky's day begins early. She walks to work in the morning, teaches her morning classes, walks home for lunch and returns to work for afternoon meetings. At the end of her day, she walks back home, eats a light supper, brushes her teeth and crawls into bed by 6 p.m., when many college students are gearing up for a night out on the town.

*To find out more about Capansky's journalism career go to [www.thepacer.net](http://www.thepacer.net) to read the article "The Life of a Journalist" which includes information about some of the famous people she has interviewed, including Baseball Hall of Famers and the compelling reason why she decided to hang up her reporter's hat. Also included are examples of articles she wrote as a journalist.*



Dr. Trisha Capansky rides 27 miles each day on her beloved English cycle. | **Pacer**  
Photo/Sheila Scott

their field. My goal for my students is this: Even if your career ends up being as a garbage collector, be the best darned garbage collector you can be," Capansky said.

"I enjoy when my students get serious about preparing life after college, when they are meeting with me to discuss resumes, the job market and employment options. No longer are we meeting to discuss absences or late assignments; rather, we are

cultures that have developed their communication systems during a period of centuries.

She recently published an article in the "International Journal of Technology, Knowledge, and Society" which looks at the extent of the impact that digital technologies will have on South Sudan, the world's newest nation. She has also written a book chapter that was also accepted for

her presented paper was accepted to an international conference held in Canada. She just recently returned from a conference held in Spain, where she presented a paper she had co-authored. She is currently conducting a follow-up study on South Sudan. She and her colleague are involved in some prep work for a study that will look at Uganda's communication behaviors.

When time allows, Capansky



# Features

UTM UNLIMITED

## Agriculture surrounds everyone's daily life

**Jesi Ogg**

*Guest Writer*

Everyone is involved in agriculture. In fact, you couldn't get through every aspect of your day without agriculture.

The artist from Ohio, the political science major from New Jersey, the future teacher from Tennessee and you are all consumers. As consumers, you are a vital part of the agricultural community.

Andy and Ellie Holt of Dresden know the importance of consumers. The Holts have four children: Josie, Andrew, Libby and Martha Ann. They offer locally grown and produced farm products to the community. In the fall, the Holts run a pumpkin patch where visitors can pick their own pumpkins, enjoy a hay ride and buy fall decorations grown locally on the Holt Family Farms.

"We want to provide a safe and fun farm experience for all ages, as well as educate and promote the agricultural diversity that West Tennessee has to offer," Andy said.

Ellie has recently started a new venture. She now makes body butters, salt scrubs, goat milk soap and skin care products, just to name a few.

"All of our products are made locally with herbs and products we grow here on our farm. If we have to use an ingredient we don't produce, we buy local and Tennessee-made items. Each of our bath and body care items is made with high grade essential oils, which not only smell great, but are great for a multitude of ailments also," Ellie said. "We are dedicated to serving our visitors' needs,

and our goal is 100 percent satisfaction. We strive to bring you the best quality products and experience."

Consumers most often think of their food coming from farms, and that is very true. Farmers do grow the food seen in the grocery store or in restaurants. However, it's easy to forget that so much more than food comes from farms and ends up in homes. Most parts of anyone's day begins with the farm.

The struggle to get out of bed in the morning is thanks to the timber harvesters who supply the wood and the cotton farmers who supply the cotton used in the comfortable sheets. In fact, according to America's Heartland's website, Tennessee is ranked number two in the nation for hardwood production. Maybe the pillows are filled with goose down feathers. If so, those geese were more than likely raised on a farm for harvest.

The struggle to leave the bed is finally conquered. It's time for a shower. The soap and shampoo in the shower contain wheat and corn. Wheat is grown in the central region of the United States, most commonly referred to as the Midwest. These same farmers also grow much of the corn that the United States produces. Corn can also be found in toothpaste, gum and perfume. The towel used to dry off with is also made from cotton.

Next ladies will probably put on makeup. Makeup is composed of corn and minerals derived from the soil. Lipstick contains pig fat and fish scales. Iowa is the leading producer of pigs, while Mississippi has the most fish farms.

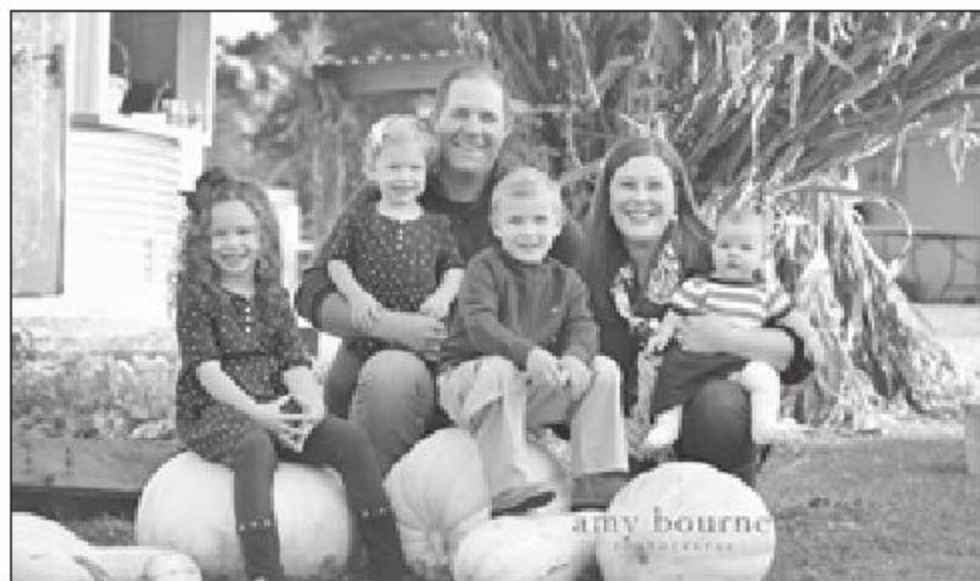
Then, it's time to get dressed. More than likely the majority of the clothing hanging in the closet will be made from cotton. But did you know that fabric softener contains animal fat? It could contain fat from cattle, horses or sheep. Without having eaten breakfast or leaving the house, already the day is surrounded by agriculture.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and each aspect of it started on a farm. Breakfast might include eggs, milk and bacon, or maybe fruit and granola. Farmers are responsible for all these foods and more.

According to Monsanto Inc.'s "America's Farmers" campaign, America's farmers grow America. Farmers do so much more than grow crops and raise livestock. They also grow the economy. U.S. agriculture is responsible for 23 million jobs in this country, making it the nation's largest employer. That's 1 in 5 jobs that relate to agriculture. It also contributes \$34 billion in trade surplus; that's enough money to buy every family in America a loaf of bread every week for the next four years.

What's more, America's farmers are true professionals. They are certified and trained in animal production and chemical use. UTM is doing its part in educating these future professionals.

"Our faculty and students are involved in cutting-edge research and outreach activities that provide to the agricultural, environmental and consumer needs of society. These activities are supported by a 640-acre



Andy and Ellie Holt pose with their children: Josie, Andrew, Libby and Martha Ann for a family photo.

**| Photo Courtesy/Amy Bourne Photography**



Ellie Holt's beauty and skincare products are all natural and made locally with herbs and products from the Holt Family Farms in Dresden. **| Photo Courtesy/Ellie Holt**

educational and research farm, modern classrooms and laboratories and state-of-the-art technologies," said Dr. Todd Winters, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

As you can see, agriculture comes in many shapes and sizes. You don't have to be from a farm or even be an agricultural major at UTM to

be involved in agriculture. On a daily basis you make decisions that directly or indirectly relate to the farm. Farmers grow the food on your plate, the clothes on your backs and the economy of your country. Thank a farmer and thank the ag student you may sit next to in class. The next time you pick up a product, see if you can trace it back to the farm.



# Sports

## COLUMN

### New coach what men's basketball team needs

**Justin Glover**

*Sports Editor*

In the previous issue of *The Pacer*, I wrote a column talking about what it would take for the men's basketball team to climb out of their continuous stupor of not being good enough to win in the OVC. In the midst of my rambling, I included this statement:

"The point I'm trying to make here is that unless a big-name Division I coach decides to prove me wrong and signs at UTM, the men's basketball team is caught in a vicious cycle of mediocrity, the kind that in theory can only be stopped by a wunderkind of the caliber of a LeBron James, or a Derrick Rose minus the SAT fiasco."

Turns out that first part actually happened. More or less, anyway.

Former UNLV assistant coach Heath Schroyer was announced on Thursday as the

new men's basketball coach at UTM, ushering in a new era of basketball for the Skyhawks--or so fans hope, anyway. Schroyer brings 18 years of coaching experience to UTM, including seven seasons as a head coach (three years at Portland State, four years at Wyoming). He clearly knows a thing or two about coaching.

So is Coach Schroyer at least part of what this team needs? Absolutely.

UTM's last head coach, Jason James, had never been in that position at any school prior to joining the Skyhawks. In fact, UTM was the first school he coached for at all, having spent seven seasons as an assistant under Bret Campbell. When he became head coach, the team made the OVC Tournament exactly once during his five-year tenure--the 2010-11 season, when the Skyhawks made it

to the second round. Lack of experience coupled with lack of fan support, however, doomed the program to basement-dweller status for the following three years.

The only issue with James was simply that he didn't have the experience needed. He can be a great coach when he needs to be, but he wasn't experienced enough in the head position to be able to effectively lead the team.

That's where Schroyer comes in. With all this experience, Schroyer could be primed to bring the Skyhawks back to relevance, if not next season then in the coming years, as he builds a solid team through recruiting. In fact, it's quite likely that UTM will be back atop the OVC West before the decade is out.

As our athletic director Julio Freire is so fond of saying, "It's a great day to be a Skyhawk."

### Sports Schedule: 3/26 - 4/8

3/26 - Women's Tennis @ SEMO

3/27-29 - Rodeo @ East Mississippi CC

3/28-29 - Equestrian @ South Dakota State Tournament

3/28-30 - Baseball vs. SEMO

3/29 - Track @ Vanderbilt Invitational

3/29-30 - Softball vs. SIU-Edwardsville

4/1 - Baseball @ Vanderbilt

4/2 - Softball @ Evansville

4/3-5 - Rodeo @ Northwest Mississippi CC

4/4-6 - Baseball @ Belmont

4/5-8 - Golf @ Arkansas State (Red Wolves Classic)

4/5 - Softball vs. Tennessee State

4/5 - Women's Tennis @ Eastern Illinois

4/5 - Track @ Auburn Tiger Track Classic

4/6 - Women's Tennis @ SIU Edwardsville

4/6 - Softball @ Belmont

4/8 - Baseball vs. Lipscomb

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Janice Mixon McDaniel

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# Sports



Photo Credit/Bradley Stringfield

## Tournament loss ends careers of decorated seniors

Bradley Stringfield

Managing Editor, Online

For the fourth time in as many years, the UTM women's basketball team's season has ended in the first round of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament.

In their last three trips, the Skyhawks took on Tennessee, Duke and Notre Dame, respectively. This year, the Skyhawks entered with a program-high No. 13 seed and took on the No. 4 seed North Carolina Tar Heels on their home court in Chapel Hill, N.C.

After leading for a majority of the game, and building up as much as an 18-point lead with 10:51 left in the second half, UTM was unable to stop UNC from completing the comeback to advance in the tournament.

Over the remaining 10 minutes, the Tar Heels went on a 28-8 run to pull ahead of the Skyhawks by two points.

Prior to the start of the second half, the scoreboard would be lowered and cause for a nine minute delay in the action. This would not be the only incident to stall the game.

With 18 seconds left, and the Skyhawks driving the ball down the court, an announcement was made that the campus was being placed on lockdown because of "an armed and dangerous person."

An announcement that UNC students had been made aware of

much earlier in the second half by an automatic text sent out by the University.

Seconds after, it was announced that the suspect was in custody and the brief lockdown ended.

This forced the Skyhawks to call back-to-back timeouts while trying to prepare their last chance at a comeback.

Trailing 60-58, Jasmine Newsome drove toward the goal before passing to Karisma Tyson.

This was a play the team had run before. As the end of the first half of the OVC Tournament Championship was drawing close, Newsome had kicked the ball out to Tyson, who hit a three-point shot as time expired. In similar fashion, with the clock winding down against the Tar Heels, Newsome once again passed the ball to Tyson, who once again shot a three-pointer as time was expiring.

However, this buzzer-beater shot didn't go Tyson's way, and the Tar Heels advanced to take on Michigan State.

"I felt like we played way better than we have been all season," said Heather Butler. "We fought, and it's just really hard to lose that ball game when I know we deserved it. We fought so hard and just had it in our hands and there it went. It hurts and it's going to hurt probably for the rest of my life but you know that's the way it goes sometimes."

Butler finished her last game as a Skyhawk with a game-high 19 points. She also added a game-high three three-pointers, which tied the NCAA record for career three-point field goals made with 392 set by Kansas State's Laurie Koehn from 2002-05.

"I thought [Newsome and Butler] controlled the game and we needed it," said McMillan. "We needed a loose ball, we needed a layup, we needed to get on the foul line one more time, and we needed one other little thing to happen and not a scoreboard coming down, and not an emergency management system popping in, and not going to the monitor. We didn't need those but I thought overall we did just about everything that we could do in that ball game."

The end of the season not only marks the best record in program history for the Skyhawks, who finish 24-8, but marks the end of an era in UTM women's basketball as well.

Newsome, Butler and Megan White all leave the program as some of the most decorated athletes to set foot on UTM's campus. In their four years, they have won a total of 87 games, two OVC championships, four OVC Tournament championships and been to four straight NCAA Tournaments.

## UTM Sports briefs

### Spring football insider website launched

UTM Sports has launched a special insider site for fans of the Skyhawks football team to keep up with the team's spring practices. The site, which can be accessed from the UTM Sports home page, will feature seven videos detailing each of the team's different positions. The first video discusses the wide receivers; future videos will feature other positions, such as the quarterbacks and the offensive and defensive lines.

### Tennis drops pair of OVC matchups

The UTM women's tennis team was defeated in two separate OVC matchups over the weekend, falling short of Eastern Kentucky 6-1 on Friday before being defeated 5-2 on Saturday by Morehead State. Hitomi Naito picked up the Skyhawks' only victory on Friday in singles play, defeating Saioa Oscoz of ECU 7-6, 6-4. On Saturday, the Skyhawks were aided by Naito as well as Jessica Silva, both of whom won their singles matches. The Skyhawks' next matchup will be at home against Southeast Missouri on March 26.

### Softball sweeps Morehead State, loses doubleheader at Eastern Kentucky

UTM's softball team defeated Morehead State in both games of a doubleheader on Saturday, winning the first game 11-7 and the second 9-4. They were swept by Eastern Kentucky on Sunday, dropping the first game 5-0 and the second 12-4 in five innings. The Skyhawks will face SIU-Edwardsville in another doubleheader on Saturday.

## The Pacer Player of the Week

-Butler scored 19 points in UT Martin's 60-58 loss to UNC in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

-She also made three three-pointers, enough to tie the all-time NCAA record for most career three-point field goals.



Heather Butler

Photo Credit/Sports Information